



NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL OFFICE
13901 CROWN COURT, WOODBRIDGE, VA. 22193
PHONE: (703) 583-3870 FAX: (703) 583-3871

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

FACILITY NAME:	Gilman property – Spotsylvania Co.				
PERMIT NUMBER:	VDH Permit	INSPECTION DATE:	8/9/05	REPORT DATE:	8/22/05
INSPECTOR:	Ed Stuart	REVIEWER	DATE		
PRESENT AT INSPECTION:	Mr. Scott Haley & Ms. Kerri Nicholas – VDH Richmond Mr. Steve McMahon & Mr. Clairborne Taylor – Synagro Mr. T.C. Waddy – Livingston District Representative				

Inspection Type:

	Compliance	WL/NOV#:	No	Announced
	Sampling		No	Scheduled
X	Other:	PREP IR# 2006-N-0102		

Background Information:

- The DEQ CO received a voice mail message from Ms. Valerie Ackerman of Spotsylvania County on 7/29/05. In the message Ms. Ackerman is asking for information on 477 acres across the road from where she lives. Ms. Ackerman stated that sludge is being sprayed in the woods and near tributary streams and that animals are likely suffering as a result of the spraying.
- I spoke with Ms. Ackerman (540-972-9603) on 8/1/05 @ 1145 to discuss what she knew of the activities described in her voice mail. Ms. Ackerman lives at 9957 Brock Road, near Todd's Tavern Market.
- Ms. Ackerman also sent some digital photos of the property and sludge that had been sprayed onto the trees and ground. Ms. Ackerman obtained these photos by trespassing onto private property.
- Based on the information provided by Ms. Ackerman I wrote up a PREP Incident Report and gave to Patty Greek. Patty was able to provide some

information from the VDH which indicated that the activities on the Gilman property/woods was in fact a VDH permitted project.

- On 8/5/05 I called Scott Haley, VDH Richmond, and spoke with him regarding the sludge spraying activities. Scott had planned to be at the Gilman project site on 8/9/05 and we agreed to meet so I could see first hand what is involved in this method of sludge application. I informed Scott that the DEQ's primary concern was the protection of streams in the project area and Scott stated that the required buffers were being maintained.

Observation Section:

- Arrived on-site, 8/9/05 @ 1310.
- Met with Scott Haley, the VDH project manager for this site. Scott provided the basic information on the Gilman project/site as well as an overview of the forestry-sludge application program administered by the VDH. Scott also conducted a tour of the site to include walking through the woods to see first hand what the area looks like after the application process is complete.
- The VDH has approved other forestry-sludge application permits in our DEQ northern region prior to the Gilman project. The active sites have been in Caroline Co. on larger tracts of land and farther away from homes.
- The Gilman project includes nine individual tracts of land in Spotsylvania County. The tract inspected today is made up of three separate areas: #1 – 70 acres of young pine trees, 4-5 years old; #2 – 60 acres, no application to date; #3 – 273.5 acres of old growth mixed forest.
- Sludge applied to area #1 and #3 came from five wastewater treatment facilities; UOSA-Fairfax Co.; Arlington; Alexandria; Blue Plains - Washington D.C.; and Mattawoman – Charles Co., Maryland.
- The sludge application process is conducted using a side-discharge spreader and the discharge point is 6-7 ft. off the ground. The spreader is capable of delivering the dewatered sludge 56-60 ft. into the woods and at a height of 12-15 off the ground and on the trees. More than 50% of the applied sludge is lying on the ground as a result of everything not sticking to the trees.
- The application rate in area #1 is roughly one-half of the rates for area #3 due to the younger age of the pine trees.
- The primary concern for the DEQ was if the required buffers are being maintained next to any streams. As indicated by the photos, all sludge application ends approximately 70 yards from the creek. The creek was accessed at the service road and I walked into the woods following the stream and also walking outwards trying to locate applied sludge. Both upstream and downstream the buffers are being maintained well in excess

- of the required 100 ft.
- Departed site @ 1525 hrs

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

- Photos taken by Ed Stuart.
- Photos can be located on the DEQ U drive @ Photos / PREP / Spotsy. Co. / VDH-Gilman 08-09-05.
- Photos are included with this report.

RECEIVING WATERS CONDITION

- Piltzer Creek was observed both upstream and downstream of the service road for approximately 70 yards. No visible impacts to the creek, as a result of the sludge application, were observed.

Compliance Section:

INSPECTION VIOLATION(S): **None**

Sampling Section: NA
